

## A DEVOTIONAL SERIES ON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN ABOUT JESUS CHRIST

### THE FATHER AND SON ARE ONE

John 5:23 “Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.” (Read John 5:19-29)

Is Jesus true God or not? The Jews here in John 5 again challenge Jesus as to who He is because they thought Him guilty of the sin of blasphemy because He said that Yahweh was His father. That, they said, meant that Jesus was claiming Himself to be equal with Him. (John 5:18) How dare the itinerant preacher make such assertions.

The citizens of the United States are no different than the Jew’s denying Jesus is true God. In a recent survey they were asked whether Jesus is true God. Here are the results of the survey: “92% believe Jesus was a real person. 56% believe He is true God, while about one-quarter say he was only a religious or spiritual leader like Mohammed or the Buddha (26%). The remaining one in six say they aren’t sure whether Jesus was divine (18%).” (George Barna Poll)

Jesus taught, “I and the Father are one.” (John 10:30) and to the Jews who questioned how Jesus could call Yahweh His Father He said, “You know neither Me nor My Father; if you knew Me, you would know My Father also.” (John 8:19) These words still apply today to the 44% who question whether Jesus is true God or those who believe that He was only a “good person” and a “great teacher.” John begins His Gospel stating that Jesus is true God, “In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. . .and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” (John 1:1,14)

Your very salvation depends upon the truth that Jesus is both true God and true man. The Small Catechism says, Jesus has to be a true human being in order to take our place under God’s Law, obey it perfectly in our place and suffer and die for our guilt. He did this because we fail and are unable to keep God’s Law perfectly. Jesus has to be true God in order to fulfill the Law and that His life, suffering and death was sufficient ransom for all people. Further, being true God

He overcame death and Satan through His resurrection from the grave on Easter morning. Because He lives you will live also. (John 14:19)

Prayer: Protect me, O God, from those who would lead me to deny that Jesus is one with You and You with Him. Keep me in this true faith to life everlasting.  
Amen

Jesus! Name of wondrous love, Name all other names above,  
Unto which must ev'ry knee Bow in deep humility.

Jesus! Name decreed of old, To the maiden mother told,  
Kneeling in her lowly cell, By the angel Gabriel.

Jesus! Name of priceless worth To the fallen of the earth  
For the promise that it gave, "Jesus shall His people save."

Jesus! Name of mercy mild, Given to the holy Child  
When the cup of human woe First He tasted here below.

Jesu! Only name that's giv'n Under all the mighty heav'n  
Whereby those to sin enslaved Burst their fetters and are saved.

Jesus! Name of wondrous love, Human name of God above;  
Pleading only this, we flee Helpless, O our God to Thee.  
(LSB 900)